PRESENT—*cont.*

Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Selection of District Munsifs by the High Court.

* 691 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the High Court selected District Munsifs this year;

(*b*) if so, whether they called for applications;

(*c*) if not, why not; and

(*d*) how many of the Munsifs selected belonged to the City of Madras; and how many to the mufassal?

A.—The High Court has invited applications in its notification, dated 10th September 1935, published on page 1102 of Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 17th September 1935, and the selection will be made by about the middle of February 1936. A short list was, however, drawn up in August 1935 to supplement the list prepared in December 1934, as the latter had been exhausted and it became necessary to add a few more names. Eight candidates were chosen from the applicants of 1934. Fresh applications were not called for as there was no time to call for and consider fresh applications. The candidates chosen are those who would have been selected in 1934 if the 1934 list had been drawn up for 24 candidates instead of 16. Out of the eight candidates chosen, five were from Madras and three from the mufassal.

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" May I know from the Hon. the Law Member from which community or communities the district munsifs are recruited? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I want notice, Sir."

Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi:—" Is it a fact that the political leanings of the candidates are taken into consideration in making the selection? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I am not in a position to answer, Sir."

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Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know what the tests are that are applied for the selection?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The High Court knows."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" Are there instructions in the matter?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The Government cannot give any instructions to them, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the Government are in possession of information regarding the recent selection?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" No, Sir."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" May I know whether the Government is prepared to advise the High Court that more mufassal lawyers should be selected as we find that almost all of them are lawyers from Madras?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The hon. Member is aware that the Civil Courts Act gives the power to the High Court and not to the Government."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Instead of advising or instructing them, the Government may communicate the wishes of the representatives of the people in the matter to the High Court?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I should think it is open to the hon. Members of this House to address the High Court on the point."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Arising out of the answer given, may I know whether the High Court has not prescribed any rules as to how the candidates are to be selected, or whether the Government are unaware of them?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I am unaware of them."

Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur:—" May I know whether the High Court has taken into consideration the interests of the West Coast districts?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I cannot answer that. I may say they are expected to take them into consideration."

Electricity

Rate charged under the Pykara Hydro-electric Scheme for consumption of electricity for agricultural purposes.

* 692 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the rate charged is for consumption of electricity for agricultural purposes under the Pykara hydro-electric system and the proposed Mettur hydro-electric scheme;